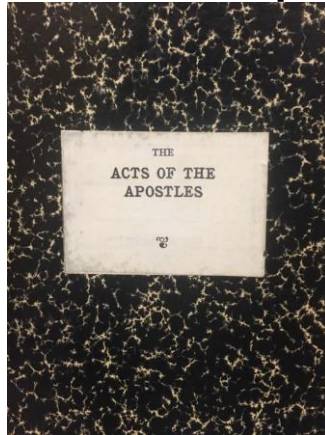


**The Burke Library at Union Theological Seminary,  
Columbia University in the City of New York**

**Union Theological Seminary Archives 1**

**Finding Aid for**

**Frederick Clifton Grant Papers, 1937-1976**



Acts of the Apostles Notebook. UTS1: Frederick Clifton Grant Papers, 1937-1976, Series 1, Box 1, Folder 5. The Burke Library at Union Theological Seminary, Columbia University in the City of New York

Finding Aid prepared by: Rebecca Nieto, February 2017

With financial support from the Henry Luce Foundation and the E. Rhodes and Leona B. Carpenter Foundation

**Summary Information**

Creator: Frederick Clifton Grant, 1891-1974  
Title: Frederick Clifton Grant Papers, 1937-1976  
Inclusive dates: 1937-1976  
Bulk dates: 1946-1949  
Abstract: New Testament scholar and Episcopalian priest; president of Seabury-Western Theological Seminary; Edward Robinson Professor of Biblical Theology at Union Theological Seminary 1939-1959; editor-in-chief of the Anglican Theological Review. Materials consist of notebooks on New Testament research, book reviews, and correspondence.  
Size: 2 boxes, 1.0 linear foot  
Storage: Onsite storage  
Repository: The Burke Library  
Union Theological Seminary  
3041 Broadway  
New York, NY 10027  
Email: [burkespecial@library.columbia.edu](mailto:burkespecial@library.columbia.edu)

### Administrative Information

- Provenance:** The Frederick Clifton Grant Papers were donated to Union Theological Seminary from the Graduate Theological Union Archives in 2001. They were among a large group of unprocessed materials that were organized in 2016/2017 with the support of the Henry Luce Foundation and the E. Rhodes and Leona B. Carpenter Foundation.
- Access:** Archival papers are available to registered readers for consultation by appointment only. Please contact archives staff by email to [burkespecial@library.columbia.edu](mailto:burkespecial@library.columbia.edu), or by postal mail to The Burke Library address on page 1, as far in advance as possible. Burke Library staff is available for inquiries or to request a consultation on archival or special collections research.
- Access Restrictions:** The collection is unrestricted to readers. Certain materials, however, are in a fragile condition, and this may necessitate restriction in handling and copying.
- Preferred Citation:** UTS1: Frederick Clifton Grant Papers, 1937-1976, series #, box #, and folder #, The Burke Library at Union Theological Seminary, Columbia University in the City of New York.

### Biography

Frederick Clifton Grant was a theologian, New Testament scholar and priest in the Episcopal Church. He was born in Beloit, Wisconsin on February 2, 1891. He began his undergraduate studies at Lawrence College in 1909, and went on to earn his B.D. from General Theological Seminary from 1911 to 1912. He was ordained in the Protestant Episcopal Church on June 6, 1912, though this exact date varies from Union's alumni records (those cited here) and Reverend Grant's profile from the [Domestic and Foreign Missionary Society of the Episcopal Church](#). He pursued postgraduate studies in theology at Western Theological Seminary in Chicago from 1914 to 1922, earning his S.T.M. (Sacrae Theologiae Magister) in 1916 and a doctorate in Theology in 1922.

Reverend Grant's service to the Episcopal Church took place chiefly in the Midwest, and covered a wide range of leadership roles in parishes of varying sizes. His first post-ordination position was as a curate with St. Mark's Cathedral in Grand Rapids, Michigan from 1912 to 1913. He was priest-in-charge at St. Paul's Church in DeKalb, Illinois from 1913 to 1915, and worked as an assistant at St. Luke's Church in Evanston from 1917 to 1920. Grant also served as a rector at both St. Luke's Church in Dixon, Illinois (1915-1917) and Chicago's Trinity Church from 1920 to 1924.

Much of Grant's career outside of his parishes took place in academia, both as a professor and administrator. From 1924 to 1926, Reverend Grant was dean at Bexley Hall (a seminary established in conjunction with Kenyon College) in Ohio from 1924 to 1926 before accepting a professorship in systematic theology at Berkeley Divinity School in Middletown, Connecticut from 1926 to 1927. Grant became president of Seabury-Western Theological Seminary in Evanston, a post he held from 1927 to 1938, and which saw him leading the merger between Western Seminary and Seabury in 1933. Grant's final and significant work in academia would

be at Union, where he accepted the Edward Robinson Professor of Biblical Theology at Union Theological Seminary, which he would hold from 1938 until his retirement in 1959.

Grant was a prolific writer, chiefly on issues relevant to Anglican New Testament scholarship. He was an avid translator, notably of Rudolf Bultmann's and Johannes Weiss's texts on criticism and early Christianity, and serving on the translation committee for the Revised Standard Version of the New Testament. He also served as editor-in-chief of the *Anglican Theological Review* from 1924 to 1955. Grant's 1957 book, *The Gospels: Their Origin and Their Growth*, engages the synoptic problem -- or the study of the written narrative of literary interpretations and the interrelatedness of the narratives in the Gospels of Matthew, Mark and Luke -- to think through mythical and the manifestation of literary traditions consistent across all three narratives. Grant proved to be invested in historical-critical methods of interpreting Biblical texts, and his extensive translating work and scholarship show his significance in popularizing these ideas to the United States. Grant wrote thirty one books, including *The Early Days of Christianity*, *An Introduction to New Testament Thought*, *How to Read the Bible*, *The Life and Times of Jesus*, *The Practice of Religion*, and *Translating The Bible*. Many of these titles are in the public domain and can be accessed on [HathiTrust](#).

Reverend Grant received doctorate degrees from a number of institutions: Nashotah House at Garrett Biblical Institute (1938); Kenyon College (1939); Bishops University (1948); General Theological Seminary (1952), University of Chicago (1953), and Princeton University (1958). After a steady and prolific career, Reverend Grant died on July 11, 1974 in New York City.

### Collection Scope and Content Note

The F.C. Grant papers consist of one linear foot of textual materials, subdivided into approximately 0.5 linear feet of notebooks committed to New Testament study, with the remaining extent dedicated to book reviews, galleys, and correspondence. These materials all fall into the sole series in this collection, "Writings":

- **Series 1: Writings, 1937-1976**

This series includes eleven composition notebooks holding pasted-down clippings from passages from the King James Version of the New Testament. These clippings are annotated with Grant's notes. This series also includes book review files that are maintained in their original order (housed in multiple envelopes with indexes at the beginning), divided by handwritten (Mss.) drafts of reviews and printed reviews. This series also includes correspondence related to the Episcopal Theological School and Albion College.

### Processing

Metal clips and staples were removed from materials and folded items were flattened. Materials were placed in new acid-free folders and boxes. Acidic items were separated from one another by interleaving with acid-free paper as needed.

### Further Sources

Biographical information, including Grant's time spent at each parish he served, can be found in the [Alumni Directory of the Union Theological Seminary, 1836-1970](#).

[The Episcopal Church](#) online provides a brief biographical sketch on Grant's career.

[\*The Joy of Study: Papers on New Testament and Related Subjects Presented to Honor Frederick Clifton Grant\*](#) was edited by Sherman E. Johnson in 1952 (then-dean of the Church Divinity School of the Pacific) and intended to commemorate Grant's life and work. This "forward to the Festschrift" of this text provides further information on F.C. Grant's career as it is remembered by other Anglican New Testament scholars.

"Grant, Frederick C." Biographical entry in Encyclopedia of Christianity in the United States, vol. 5. Rowman & Littlefield Publishers, 2016. Also accessible via [GoogleBooks](#).

## Contents list

### Series 1: Writings, 1937-1976

#### Series Box Folder Contents

#### **New Testament Notebooks, Annotated**

1	1	1	Gospel of St. Matthew, 1949
1	1	2	Gospel of St. Mark, 1949
1	1	3	Gospel of St. Luke, 1949
1	1	4	Gospel of St. John, 1949
1	1	5	Acts of the Apostles, 1949
1	1	6	Epistle of Paul the Apostle to the Romans, 1949
1	1	7	Epistle of Paul the Apostle to the Corinthians, 1949
1	2	1	Epistle of Paul the Apostle to the Galatians, Ephesians, Philippians, Collosians, Thessalonians, 1949
1	2	3	General Epistles of James, Peter, John and Jude, 1949
1	2	4	Revelation of St. John the Divine [1949]
			<b>Other Writings</b>
1	2	5	Christian Doctrine, Undated
1	2	6	Anglican Review Galleys, 1944
1	2	7	Review of Christ and Time (Cullman) [1950]
1	2	8	Envelope 1 – Book Reviews, Mss. [1894-1956]
1	2	9	Envelope 2 – Book Reviews, Printed, 1946-1976
1	2	10	Enveloped 3 – Typed Letters and Book Reviews, 1957
1	2	11	Correspondence, 1937-1946